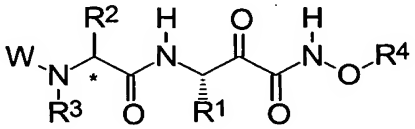
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-28. (Canceled)

29. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of ~~a disease or disorder selected from the group consisting of neurodegenerative disease,~~ stroke~~, and Alzheimer's disease~~ comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of the Formula I:



I

wherein:

W is A-B-D;

A is aryl$(CH_2)_n$, heteroaryl$(CH_2)_n$, alkyl having from one to 14 carbons, alkenyl having from two to 14 carbons, or cycloalkyl having from 3 to 10 carbons, said A group being optionally substituted with one or more J groups;

B is a bond or CO, SO, SO_2, OCO, NR^5CO, NR^5SO_2, or NR^5SO;

D is a bond, an amino acid residue, or a peptide composed of 2 to 5 amino acid residues, said amino acid residue(s) being independently defined by the formula -NH-**CH(R^6)-CO-, in which ** denotes the α carbon of an α-amino acid residue possessing, when R^6 is other than hydrogen, the D- configuration, the L- configuration, or a mixture of D- and L-;

n is an integer from 0 to 6;

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are, independently, hydrogen, alkyl having from one to 14 carbons, or cycloalkyl having from 3 to 10 carbons, said alkyl, and cycloalkyl groups being optionally substituted with one or more J groups; and

J is halogen, lower alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, haloaryl, amino optionally substituted with one to three aryl or lower alkyl groups, guanidino, alkoxycarbonyl, amido, lower alkylamido, sulfonamido, lower alkyl sulfonamido, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower alkylsulfoxy, lower alkylthio, lower alkoxy, aryloxy, arylalkyloxy, hydroxy, carboxy, cyano, or nitro; and

* denotes the α carbon of an α-amino acid residue possessing, when R^2 is other than hydrogen, the D- configuration, the L- configuration, or a mixture of the D- and L-configurations.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^1 is alkyl or alkyl substituted with J, wherein J is lower alkoxy.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein R^1 is benzyl, methoxymethyl, or butyl.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^2 is alkyl or alkyl substituted with J, wherein J is arylalkyloxy or aryl.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein R^2 is isobutyl or benzyloxymethyl.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^3 is H.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^4 is alkyl, alkyl substituted with J, cycloalkyl, or cycloalkyl substituted with J wherein J is aryl, haloaryl, alkyl or heteroaryl.

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 35 wherein R^4 is methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, benzyl, (pentafluorophenyl)methyl, tert-butyl, or 4-methylcyclohexyl.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein W is benzyloxycarbonyl, methanesulfonyl, benzoyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, or benzyloxycarbonyl-leucyl.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^3 is H, and R^1 is alkyl or alkyl substituted with J, wherein J is lower alkoxy.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^3 is H, and R^2 is alkyl or alkyl substituted with J wherein J is arylalkyloxy or aryl.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^3 is H, and R^4 is alkyl, alkyl substituted with J, cycloalkyl, or cycloalkyl substituted with J wherein J is aryl, alkyl, haloaryl, or heteroaryl.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^3 is H, R^1 is alkyl or alkyl substituted with J wherein J is lower alkoxy, and R^2 is alkyl or alkyl substituted with J wherein J is arylalkyloxy or aryl.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^3 is H, R^1 is alkyl or alkyl substituted with J, wherein J is lower alkoxy, and R^4 is alkyl, alkyl substituted with J, cycloalkyl, or cycloalkyl substituted with J wherein J is aryl, haloaryl, alkyl or heteroaryl.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^3 is H, R^1 is alkyl or alkyl substituted with J wherein J is lower alkoxy, R^4 is alkyl, alkyl substituted with J, cycloalkyl, or cycloalkyl substituted with J wherein J is aryl, haloaryl, alkyl or heteroaryl, and R^2 is alkyl or alkyl substituted with J wherein J is arylalkyloxy or aryl.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^1 is benzyl, methoxymethyl, or butyl; R^2 is isobutyl or benzyloxymethyl; R^3 is hydrogen; R^4 is methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, benzyl, (pentafluorophenyl)methyl, tert-butyl, or 4-methylcyclohexyl; and W is benzyloxycarbonyl, methanesulfonyl, benzoyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, or benzyloxycarbonyl-leucyl.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^1 is benzyl; R^2 is isobutyl; * denotes the α carbon of an α-amino acid residue possessing the L-configuration; R^3 is hydrogen; R^4 is methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, benzyl, (pentafluorophenyl)methyl, tert-butyl, or 4-methylcyclohexyl; and W is benzyloxycarbonyl or benzyloxycarbonyl-leucyl.

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein R^1 is benzyl; R^2 is benzyloxymethyl; * denotes the α carbon of an α-amino acid residue possessing the D-configuration; R^3 is hydrogen; R^4 is methyl, ethyl, or benzyl; and W is methanesulfonyl.

47. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein W, R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are selected in accordance with the following table:

W	R^1	R^2	R^3	R^4
BnOCO	Bn	L-$CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$	H	CH_3
BnOCO	Bn	L-$CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$	H	CH_2CH_3
BnOCO	Bn	L-$CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$	H	Bn
BnOCO	Bn	L-$CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$	H	$CH_2C_6F_5$
BnOCO	Bn	L-$CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$	H	tBu
BnOCO	Bn	L-$CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$	H	(4-methyl-cyclohexyl)
CH_3SO_2	CH_2OCH_3	D-CH_2OBn	H	Bn
CH_3SO_2	Bn	D-CH_2OBn	H	Bn
CH_3SO_2	Bn	D-CH_2OBn	H	CH_2CH_3
BnOCO	Bn	L-$CH(CH_3)_2$	H	Bn
BnOCO	$(CH_2)_3CH_3$	L-$CH(CH_3)_2$	H	Bn
Cbz-Leu	Bn	L-$CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$	H	CH_3
Cbz-Leu	Bn	L-$CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$	H	Bn
PhCO	$(CH_2)_3CH_3$	L-Bn	H	CH_2CH_3
BnOCO	Bn	L-$CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$	H	$(CH_2)_3CH_3$

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein
W is benzyloxycarbonyl;
R^1 is benzyl;
R^3 is H;
R^2 is L-$CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$ or L-$CH(CH_3)_2$;
and R^4 is selected from the group consisting of -CH_3, -CH_2CH_3, benzyl, -$CH_2C_6F_5$, t-butyl, and 4-methylcyclohexyl.

49-51. (canceled)